



VOLUME 53
NUMBER 1

SEPTEMBER 2000
ELUL-TISHRI 5760-5761

Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin



SONG AND PRAYER: MAKING OUR VOICES HEARD

*High Holiday Singing Workshop
Monday, September 18*

As we write this, we have just returned from the North American Jewish Choral Festival. We taught classes, participated in "community sings" and "instant ensembles," davened in harmony, and listened to choral performances together with 450 amateur Jewish choral singers. This experience was both awesome and humbling. There is incredible power in so many voices uniting in song, in a large group, helping one another accomplish something greater than any one of them alone.

This was the Eleventh Annual Choral Festival hosted by the Zamir Choral Foundation, which aims through teaching and performance of Jewish music "to revitalize Jewish culture and commitment, thereby strengthening and uniting the Jewish people."

This year, at our High Holiday services, we will again utilize the booklet, *Hear Our Voices: Sh'ma Kolenu*. This guide contains a synopsis, transliteration and musical notation for many of the prayers we chant together. Our goal is that each person attending our services enjoys the beauty and participates fully.

To help achieve this goal, we are offering a **High Holiday Music Workshop on Monday, September 18 at 7:00 P.M.** We hope that you will join us at that time to learn and review the melodies of our High Holiday services.

Just as the Choral Festival creates a singing community for a few days, so can we create a congregation that, in adding each voice in joy and worship to our services, will increase the strength of the entire Park Avenue Synagogue community.

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Morris M. Podolsky and Katherina Kroo Grunfeld Will be Honored on Simhat Torah



Morris M. Podolsky



Katherina Kroo Grunfeld

Every year, during the Festival of Simhat Torah, it is customary for congregations to honor two members who have contributed in important ways to the life of their synagogue and/or the Jewish community in which they live. In keeping with this Jewish tradition, this year, during the Simhat Torah service on Sunday morning, October 22, 2000, Park Avenue Synagogue will honor two such special congregants, Morris M. Podolsky and Katherina Kroo Grunfeld. Morris Podolsky will be called to the Torah as Hatan Torah, while Kathy Grunfeld will be called to the Torah as Kallah Bereishit.

Following the service, which begins at 9:15 A.M., the entire congregation will be invited to a buffet luncheon and reception on the Lower Level in honor of the honorees and their families.

Morris M. Podolsky

Morris Podolsky has been a member of the Park Avenue Synagogue community since 1987. At that time, his two older children, Rebecca and Zachary, were just beginning their religious education in the kindergarten and Aleph grades. Since then, in what seems like the "blink of an eye," they have been B'nai Mitzvah and graduated from the Hebrew high school. Morris's younger son, Joshua, has completed three years in the Early Childhood Center and will begin in the Gan grade in the religious school, continuing the family's involvement in the educational

programs of the Park Avenue Synagogue.

Over the years, Morris has become progressively more actively involved in the life of the congregation. He has served on its Advisory Council and Board of Trustees. He has been a member of the School Board and co-directed the annual Lag B'omer Family Picnics. He is also a member of the Men's Club. Morris has chanted Torah and Haftarah in the Havurah Service, often with Rebecca and Zachary. He has been particularly involved in the Family Education Program (*Kehillah*) since its inception five years ago, and has been proud to be a part of a program aimed at encouraging multi-generational Jewish learning and experience in our congregational community. He was recently named co-director of this program, which became an "arm" of the synagogue this past spring.

Morris was born in Detroit and grew up in the suburb of Southfield. Members of his family have belonged to Congregation Shaarey Zedak, the pre-eminent Conservative congregation in the Detroit area, since the early 1950's. He graduated from its Hebrew high school, the Southfield Senior High School, and then headed east to Harvard College, from which he graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. He then attended Harvard Medical School, graduating AOA. After interning at The Cambridge Hospital, he did his ophthalmology residency at the E.S. Harkness Eye Institute of the Columbia-

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F R O M T H E

Rabbi's Desk



Islam, Judaism & Christianity: Whose tradition is it anyway?

During the impressive Mass of Installation for Archbishop Egan at St. Patrick's, I sat next to some Muslim theologian who asked if I had ever thought of converting to Islam! This encounter reminded me of an article in *The Spectator* from London by Matthew Parris entitled, "What's all this about the Judaeo-Christian tradition, when Judaism is the odd one out?" I agree with Parris when he says that probably the whole notion of a Judaeo-Christian tradition began here in the United States, because it is inappropriate to speak of "Christian values" and leave the Jewish people out, for obvious rea-

Park Avenue Synagogue



Agudat Yesharim
50 East 87 Street
New York, NY 10128

Synagogue Office: 369-2600
School before 9 A.M.: 831-8686

Affiliated with
The Jewish Theological Seminary and
the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Judah Nadich.....Rabbi Emeritus
David H. Lincoln.....Senior Rabbi
Kenneth A. Stern.....Rabbi
Miriam C. Berkowitz.....Assistant Rabbi
David Lefkowitz.....Senior Cantor
Nancy Abramson.....Cantor
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Plaza Memorial Chapel
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SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES for SEPTEMBER, 2000

Friday evening, September 1	6:15 P.M.
Saturday morning, September 2	9:15 A.M.
Saturday afternoon, September 2	6:00 P.M.
Friday evening, September 8	6:15 P.M.
Saturday morning, September 9	9:15 A.M.
Hashkama Service	7:30 A.M.
Havurah Service	9:30 A.M.
Tot Shabbat	11:15 A.M.

Bat Mitzvah of Katya Tawil Ostrow

daughter of Dr. Stephen and Mrs. Arlette Tawil Ostrow

Saturday afternoon, September 9	6:00 P.M.
Friday evening, September 15	6:15 P.M.
Saturday morning, September 16	9:15 A.M.
Hashkama Service	7:30 A.M.
Shabbat Initiative	10:00 A.M.
Tot Shabbat	11:15 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah of Michael Henry Simon

son of Barbara and Brad Simon

Saturday afternoon, September 16	6:00 P.M.
Friday evening, September 22	6:15 P.M.

Monthly Children's Birthday Celebration

Saturday morning, September 23	9:15 A.M.
Hashkama Service	7:30 A.M.
Havurah Service	9:30 A.M.

Bat Mitzvah of Ariel Morgan Brettholz

daughter of Dr. Edward and Mrs. Amy Brettholz

Saturday afternoon, September 23	6:00 P.M.
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Selihot Service

Saturday evening, September 23	10:00 P.M.
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ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Friday evening, September 29	5:45 P.M.
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First Day of Rosh Hashanah

Saturday morning, September 30	8:30 A.M.
Saturday evening, September 30	5:45 P.M.

Second Day of Rosh Hashanah

Sunday morning, October 1	8:30 A.M.
Sunday evening, October 1	5:45 P.M.

Rabbi David H. Lincoln, Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern and Rabbi Miriam C. Berkowitz will preach and conduct the services together with Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson and the Synagogue High Holy Days Choir, with Neil Robinson at the organ.

Nitzanim Services (for children in kindergarten through 2nd grade and their parents) every Saturday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. in Room 408.

*Babysitting for children 2 to 5 years of age is available
every Saturday morning from 9:15 A.M. to 12 Noon.*

sons. He then goes on to show that a case could be made for a Christian-Islamic or Judaeo-Islamic tradition, for he feels Judaism and Christianity have very little in common.

There can be no doubt that in many ways Jews and Muslims certainly should feel very close (putting aside the politics) as living religions in a way that Christianity is not. Both are concerned with the most minute details of everyday life: what we eat; how many times we pray; laws regarding marriage, divorce,

business, feasts and fasts. Secular laws intertwined with religious – indeed, indistinguishable. As strict unitarians, the worship of icons or sacred objects is taboo. Perhaps it could also be said that Judaism and Islam, while more concerned with "family values" (a subject on which Jesus hardly spoke), may be more sexually repressive than Christianity.

Christians and Muslims also have much in common being much more missionary and

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From the Rabbi's Desk

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beckoning to all peoples. Judaism basically discouraged conversion and told the world that the Torah is just for Jews. We could argue that Judaism was more tolerant, for it allowed the nations of the world their own beliefs within a Jewish state, provided those beliefs did not include murder and gross immorality and cruelty. Islam and Christianity boldly proselytize, while Judaism feels that the nations of the world should not be expected to live by its stringencies.

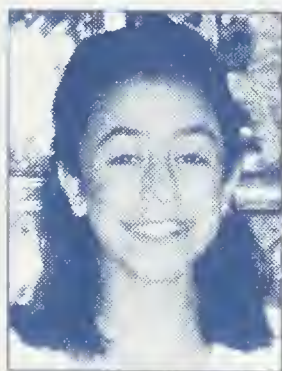
In recent years, there has been somewhat of a change in the way Jews view their Judaism. Historically, Judaism was an immensely wise and practical religion. The prophet Hosea stated "this you shall do and live". It was the doing of good deeds; the way one conducted one's everyday life that was important. Thus, while Judaism had its mystics and while, furthermore, we believed in a world to come, matters of a theological nature were played down. It was how you conducted yourself everyday that mattered most; not what would be or what one believed. There is even a statement made by the Jerusalem Talmud, which indicates that G-d was supposed to have said "O, that you would forget me, but keep my commandments!" Once again, this is unlike the other two beliefs. Today, much is heard in the Jewish community about spirituality and the study of mystical texts, usually by those who do not know the simplest rules of our faith. This, to my mind, is not only sad, but it also dilutes our traditions and increases ignorance rather than knowledge.

Because of the Enlightenment, it could be argued that today's Judaeo-Christian tradition is, in fact, more secular than religious. The success of this new rapprochement has taken place because Jews are less observant and Christians, too, are more skeptical. As Matthew Parris rightly points out, "as soon as Muslims lose some of their intensity, they too will join the tradition".

— **David H. Lincoln,**
Senior Rabbi

September B'not and Bar Mitzvah

Katya Tawil Ostrow September 9, 2000



Hebrew High School.

After nursery school, Katya entered the Brearley School where she is just beginning eighth grade. Her favorite subjects there are math and French. As class president last year, she enjoyed a taste of politics. Although her primary extra curricular activity is tennis, she also pursues chess, solving logic problems and computer diversions.

This past summer, Katya took a break from tennis camp by attending a camp in the Champagne region of France where she studied French language and culture. She then joined the rest of her family in France for some touring. Katya has been to Israel several times, went to Egypt last year with a large group of her Sephardic Egyptian mother's family, and is looking forward to visiting both countries again.

Michael Henry Simon September 16, 2000



Synagogue Congregational Hebrew School since the Aleph Grade and will be continuing his Jewish education in the Hebrew High

Katya Ostrow has attended the Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational School since early childhood, beginning with the Nitzanim Services, and is looking forward to continuing in the

Michael Simon is an eighth grade student at the Wagner Middle School where, this past year, he was inducted into the National Honor Society.

Michael has attended the Park Avenue

School. For the past six summers, he has gone to Camp Ramah in Nyack, which has deepened his appreciation and understanding of his Jewish heritage. In addition, this past summer, Michael took part in an educational excursion to London and Paris.

In his spare time, Michael likes to go on the Internet and talk to his friends, listen to Internet radio and download computer programs. Over the past year, Michael has created several commercial web sites, including a web site for the Park Avenue Synagogue Hebrew School Youth Group. He will be working on developing the web site for the Hebrew High School with the faculty and other students.

Ariel Morgan Brettholz September 23, 2000



Ariel Brettholz began her Hebrew education at the Park Avenue Synagogue Early Childhood Center and has attended its Congregational Hebrew School since the Aleph grade.

In September, Ariel will enter the eighth grade at the Riverdale Country School, which she has attended for the past nine years. Her favorite subjects are math, English and Spanish.

Ariel's loves include playing competitive tennis and water and downhill skiing. She also enjoys volunteering in her school's Soup Kitchen and in various other programs she has participated in to help feed the homeless.

During the summer, she attends Camp Wicosuta in New Hampshire where she takes part in many team sports including tennis, lacrosse and volleyball.

Ariel hopes to travel to Israel with her family in the near future.

Song and Prayer

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We may not all be choral singers, but we can all be participatory daveners. As you open your hearts and minds in prayer and gratitude at services, we hope you will utilize

the High Holiday Congregational Singing Guide, bringing us together in song and prayer.

**L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu
v'Techatemu!**

**Cantor David Lefkowitz and
Cantor Nancy Abramson**

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In Celebration of the High Holy Days

IN OUR HOMES

Rosh Hashanah

Rosh Hashanah is both a solemn and a festive occasion. Its joy is spiritually disciplined by the sacred traditions of home and synagogue. Although the observance of the High Holy Days is centered in the synagogue, it is in the home where family members prepare to meet the New Year in a spirit of faith and in a mood conducive to prayer and soul-searching.

White is thought of as the color which symbolizes purity and joy. Thus the table is set with a white tablecloth and flowers, candles and wine. Round hallot, symbolizing a full round year, apples and a dish of honey for a sweet year complete the symbolic representations on the holiday table.

The family gathers together for the lighting of the candles and kiddush which precede the festive meal on both nights of Rosh Hashanah. The following blessings are recited over the candles:

Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Haolam, asher kideshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu lehadlik ner shel Yom Tov.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, whose mitzvot add holiness to our lives and who gave us the mitzvah to kindle light for the Festival.

Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Haolam, shebebeyanu vekiyemanu vehigyanu lazman hazeh.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has kept us in life, preserved us, and enabled us to reach this season.

After the Rosh Hashanah kiddush, the Motzi is recited over the round hallah:

Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Haolam, hamotzi lehem min ha-aretz.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

Then all the members of the family dip the apple in honey and recite the following blessing and prayer:

Yehi ratzon milefanekhab Adonai Eloheinu v'Elohei avoteinu, shetehadesh aleinyu shanah tovah umetukah.

May it be Thy Will, O Lord our God, to renew unto us a happy and sweet New Year.

After the morning services of Rosh Hashanah, a festive meal is also eaten, preceded by the daytime kiddush and the Motzi:

Tiku vahodesh shofar, bakeseh l'yom hagenu,

kibok l'Yisraelhu, mishpat l'Elohey Yaaqkov.

Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Haolam, borei pri hagafen.

The greeting on Rosh Hashanah is L'Shanah Tovah Tikatavu — May you be inscribed for a good year.

Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur is the one religious occasion which is observed entirely in the synagogue. But the meal which precedes the fast of Erev Yom Kippur is intended to be a spiritual experience for the entire family. The meal is eaten early so that the family can be in the synagogue before sundown.

Following the *Birkat haMazon* — the grace after meals — the holiday candles are lit and the following blessings are recited:

Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Haolam, asher kideshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu lehadlik ner shel Yom HaKippurim.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us by The Commandments and has commanded us to kindle the Yom Kippur lights.

Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Haolam, shebebeyanu vekiyemanu vehigyanu lazman hazeh.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has kept us in life, preserved us, and enabled us to reach this season.

Fasting

Although children are not obligated to fast until they are Bar/Bat Mitzvah age, it is a tradition that they do observe the fast in part, to the extent they are able.

Self-denial in food and other physical pleasures is part of the tradition of this "Sabbath of Sabbaths." However, Jewish law and tradition state that the maintenance of life and health is a prime religious duty. If a person is ill or weak, it is the obligation of the individual to consult a physician on the wisdom of fasting.

Memorial Lights

It is a custom to light a Memorial Light for the deceased in each family. Memorial Lights must be lit before the holiday candles are lit.

Blessing the Children

It is the tradition that before leaving for the Kol Nidre service parents bless their children by placing their hands on the head of each one. Such blessings are introduced by the following prayer, to which parents can add words of their own, appropriate for the age and needs of each child:

For Sons: May God make you a true,

faithful and honorable son of Israel, as were Ephraim and Menasseh, the sons of Joseph.

For Daughters: May God make you a faithful and honorable daughter of Israel, as were our mothers Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah.

Forgiveness

At this time, just before leaving the house to attend the Kol Nidre service, members of the family ask each other for forgiveness for the wrongs or the hurts they have done, knowingly or unknowingly, during the year.

IN OUR CONGREGATION

Shabbat Shuvah

The Sabbath that falls between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is called Shabbat Shuvah, from the Haftarah portion of that Sabbath which begins with the word Shuvah, meaning "return" (repent).

For the Hearing Impaired

Through the generosity of Mrs. Samuel Wimpfheimer, it is now possible for those who are hearing impaired to use head sets while attending services. Please inform the synagogue office if you wish to avail yourself of this convenience.

Tzedakah

As a caring community, congregants are asked to consider the needs of the synagogue at the Kol Nidre Appeal and the two social outreach programs which it supports year round: The Food Pantry and the Tikkun Olam Committee for Community Outreach.

Congregants are asked to respond as generously as possible to the Kol Nidre Appeal. The funds generated by this annual campaign help balance the annual budget of the synagogue which includes the religious school program and social service outreach programs.

The Food Pantry, operated by our high school students, supplies food packages to more than one hundred poor families in our neighborhood. The cost of this program is \$20 per family, per week. Let your heart dictate to you how you wish to support this important project.

The Tikkun Olam Committee for Community Outreach works in cooperation with the Metropolitan New York Coordinating Council on Jewish Poverty to help Soviet Jewish immigrants with their needs.

**HOLD THE DATE
DECEMBER 3, 2000
MITZVAH SUNDAY VI**

Simhat Torah Honorees

(continued from page 1)

Presbyterian Medical Center. Having tasted life in the "Big Apple," Morris decided this was where he wanted to "put down roots." After a year's fellowship in glaucoma at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Morris entered the private practice of ophthalmology in New York City. His dedication to his patients and their dedication to him is a defining characteristic of his professional life.

He is assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center and attending surgeon at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, where he supervises residents in its glaucoma clinic. He is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the AMA, the New York State and County Medical Societies, and the New York Glaucoma Society.

Morris was married to Laurie Ferber Podolsky in January 1993 at the Park Avenue Synagogue. Laurie is a managing director at Goldman, Sachs & Co. and is currently general counsel of the fixed income, currency, and commodities division.

Besides Morris, other members of the Podolsky family have been actively involved in the life of our congregation as well. Rebecca, now in her sophomore year at Harvard College, was co-director of the Park Avenue Synagogue Food Pantry and helped lead the youth services during the High Holidays. Zachary, who is entering his freshman year at Harvard, participated in the various community service programs of Project Ezra. And for his shofar blowing at the children's services he is referred to as "the big kid with the long-lasting *Tekiyah Gedolah*." Joshua has attended synagogue since he was a few weeks old and has participated in Tot Shabbats and Family Education Programs. Laurie has been involved in the activities of the PASECC and Mitzvah Sunday.

Morris says he has always considered himself "lucky to be Jewish," and that being a member of the Park Avenue Synagogue reinforces this feeling. He is very grateful for all the ways it allows each of us to be Jewish. Thus, he is committed to enhancing the synagogue as a center for Jewish worship, education, community service and tzedaka. He would like to help create an environment in which both a love of Judaism and a true commitment to it is passed on from one generation to the next.

Therefore, we are proud to honor him as Hatan Torah this Simhat Torah for his contributions to our congregation's life. We truly hope that he and his family will continue their involvement with us for many more years.

Katherina Kroo Grunfeld

When Kathy and her husband, Paul Grunfeld, a pediatrician, joined Park Avenue Synagogue in 1982, they were looking for a congregation where they would feel at home, where they could fulfill their religious commitments, help their daughters connect with the Jewish people through education and example, and, thereby, solidify their family's identity as part of Klal Yisroel. Since then, Park Avenue Synagogue has remained a major anchor in their lives as it continues to satisfy those goals.

Their three daughters attended the Park Avenue Synagogue religious schools and celebrated their B'not Mitzvah at the synagogue. They owe their strong commitment to Judaism in large part to the excellent religious education they received. Nicole, a Yale graduate and Hillel supporter, works for the Corporate Council of the Screen Actors Guild and is continuing her law studies. Natalie became active in Hillel at Stanford, served on the National Board of Hillel and is currently the treasurer of the Stanford Hillel Foundation Board of Directors. Recently married, she lives and works in the Bay Area. Gabrielle was an enthusiastic member of USY and the first president of the Park Avenue Synagogue chapter. She just returned from the Young Judea Year-in-Israel Program and is a freshman at Union College.

Kathy was born in Bratislava, now the capital of Slovakia, came to the U.S. as a child and has been an avid New Yorker ever since. She attended public schools in the Bronx and Queens, and Hunter College High School in Manhattan. She received both her bachelor's degree, graduating Phi Beta Kappa, and her master's degree in European intellectual history from New York University and then her doctorate from Teachers College, Columbia University. Kathy has taught history in the CUNY system, where she served as archival and library consultant. Her most recent article appears in the *Encyclopedia of American Jewish Women*. She was director of English Now, a program teaching English to recently arrived professionals.

Jewish organizational life has always been an important part of Kathy's life. As a youngster, she attended Forest Hills Jewish Center where she became active in Young Judea, the National Zionist Youth Movement. She was president of the Queens region, served on the National Board and sat on the American Zionist Youth Council. After graduation from high school, she took part in the Young Judea Year-in-Israel Program, an experience she still considers one of the highlights of her life.

Kathy continues to be involved in both

community and Jewish life. While her children were still in school, she helped develop and chaired Joint Schools Activities, Inc., an organization representing the Parents Associations of Independent Schools in Manhattan and Riverdale, which encourages the schools and other organizations to provide students with safe and appropriate after school and weekend activities. She currently is president of the Board of the Hillel Foundation of Hunter College and sits on the Board of the Yorkville Common Pantry.

Park Avenue Synagogue is central to Kathy's strong connection to Judaism. Over the years, she says, as she watched her children move through their schools, leave for college, yet always return for major holidays and events, affirm their Jewish roots and rejoice in their heritage, the sense of belonging to this vibrant community has enriched their lives. Kathy, in turn, has contributed her efforts to the synagogue. She is co-chairman, with Lite Sabin, of ***Tikkun Olam, the Committee for Community Outreach and the Homeless***. Under their leadership, *Tikkun Olam* has brought our congregation together to support both Jewish and community-based organizations through activities such as Mitzvah Sunday, clothing and scholarship drives and to represent the synagogue as a concerned institution in our neighborhood. Because of her work, Kathy is a member of the Park Avenue Synagogue Advisory Council and the Family Education Committee.

We applaud Kathy as this year's Kallah Bereishit and for the many contributions she has made to Jewish communal life. We hope that she will be able to continue her good work for many years to come.

The Annual "Roses for Rosh Hashanah" Men's Club Project

Once again, you can order your roses for Rosh Hashanah through the Men's Club. But please do so **as soon as possible** and **no later than Friday, September 22nd** for delivery prior to Rosh Hashanah, Friday, September 29th.

Cost: \$40 per dozen; \$70 for a two-dozen special. Please send your check, **payable to the Men's Club**, to the synagogue office, along with your name and address and/or the name and address of the person(s) to whom roses are to be sent.

The Men's Club sends its best wishes to all Park Avenue Synagogue congregants for a happy and healthy new year!

Welcome Back From the Congregational School's Parents' Association

What lies ahead is an exciting new year of Jewish education, experience, growth and community service. The Parents' Association sponsors a number of events during the year that support the religious school and enrich the lives of its students and their families. Everyone is invited to participate! Here are some of the upcoming events:

Welcome Coffees: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, September 11, 12 and 14 from 4:30 to 6 P.M. Come and meet the clergy!

Planning Meetings in the Family Room from 5 to 6 P.M.: Come either Wednesday, September 20 or Thursday, September 21st. Get involved! We need your ideas!

Sukkah Dinners: The Parents' Association will be hosting two Sukkah dinners on Wednesday, October 18 and Thursday, October 19. Sign up early!

Curriculum Night: Monday, September 18 at 7 P.M. Come meet your children's teachers. There will be time to socialize at a reception sponsored by the Parents' Association.

Mitzvah Sunday: Save the date – **December 3, 2000.** Collect items to donate.

Welcome Back From the Congregational Schools

We hope you had a wonderful summer and that both students and their parents are ready to begin a new academic year. The teachers and I are looking forward to a year full of excitement and joy. Have a good and happy New Year. Shanah Tovah!

— Varda Hubara, educational director

September Events in the Congregational School:

- Monday, September 11 – the first day of religious school
- Monday, September 18 – Curriculum Meeting at 7 P.M. All parents are invited.
- Saturday, September 23 – the first Gimel grade parent/student "Together" program will be held from 9 to 11 A.M. in room 308. The topic will be "The High Holy Days."
- Sunday, September 24 – Zayin grade mandatory session from 10 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.
- Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1 – Rosh Hashanah Services for students will be held from 10:30 A.M. to 12 Noon.

Young Couple's Group

The Park Avenue Synagogue Young Couple's Group is a discussion group for 25 to 40 year-old male and female synagogue members. The group meets about every six weeks on a weekday evening to discuss various topics, including but not limited to current events, family life, social issues and Judaism. If a specific topic for the evening is not a Jewish topic, the group brings Judaism into the discussion by talking about how our religious beliefs and traditions relate to the topic. Some past topics have been: kashrut, tzedaka, raising children in New York, estate planning, CPR and the mitzvah of saving a life, Jewish medical ethics, and how to have a meaningful Passover.

A very special aspect of this group is how it convenes. One couple hosts the group in their home, while another couple leads the discussion.

The group has also collected money for the Food Pantry and toys for a women's shelter.

The group will begin its 2000-2001 season on September 14 at 7:30 P.M. Please call the synagogue office at 369-2600 to be put on its mailing list.

September Family Education Programs

The Family Education Program will sponsor the following events during the months of September and October:

- **Saturday, September 9 and Saturday, September 16 – Tot Shabbats.** Come with your 3 to 5 year-olds to a fun-filled interactive Shabbat program with Elyse Goldstein from 11:15 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. on the Fifth Floor.
 - **Saturday, September 16 – Shabbat Initiative** from 10 A.M. to 12 Noon. Learn more about Shabbat with beginner services, discussions, singing and more. Afterwards, join the congregation for Kiddush.
 - **Tuesday, September 19** from 6 to 7 P.M. – **Library Story Hour.** Bring your children in their pajamas to hear holiday bedtime stories. Snacks will be provided.
 - **Sunday, September 24** – Visit a traditional sofer in Borough Park, Brooklyn. Tour the area and see the sofer in action. Only \$15 per person.
 - **Sunday, October 15 – Sukkah Dinner** sponsored by the Family Education Program
- To sign up or for more information about any of these programs, please call Stacey Erlich, family education director at 369-2600, ext. 136.

Sherr Institute of Adult Jewish Studies Introduction to Judaism, with Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz

Mondays, beginning September 11 from 7:15 to 8:45 P.M. for two semesters (30 weeks)

An overview of Jewish laws, customs and thought for anyone seeking knowledge at an adult level, or for anyone considering conversion.

To register, call Park Avenue Synagogue, 369-2600, ext. 148, no later than September 5th. Cost: \$150 for members; \$200 for non-members plus materials.

September Events in the Rabbi Judah Nadich High School

The following five events will take place in the high school during the month of September:

- Tuesday, September 12 – High School orientation and registration for 8th grade students at 4:30 P.M.
- Wednesday, September 13 – High school orientation and registration for 9th to 12th grade students at 4:30 P.M.
- Sunday, September 17 – classes begin at 10:30 A.M.
- Sunday, September 24 – Project Ezra Pre-High Holy Days Synagogue Clean up on the Lower East Side from 10:30 A.M. to 2 P.M.
- Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1 – Rosh Hashanah Services for the students will be held from 10:30 A.M. to 12 Noon.

With Pride and Congratulations

Park Avenue Synagogue takes great pride in the accomplishments of its students and wishes them continuing success in their future academic studies. To:

Peter Nathaniel Chavkin, grandson of Wallace and Esta Chavkin, who will attend the "Huntsman Program" in International Business at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Richard S. Julie, son of Mr. & Mrs. David B. Julie, who has graduated cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center.

Selihot Lecture and Service Saturday Evening, September 23

It is customary for Jews to prepare for the High Holy Days both intellectually and spiritually. This special preparation takes place at the Selihot service on the Saturday evening before Rosh Hashanah, this year on September 23. It will include a timely lecture on the significance of the prayers and their traditional musical themes, and will be followed by the congregational recitation of Selihot penitential prayers. These prayers allow us to open our hearts and minds in supplication for the year ahead, and in gratitude for all the blessings we have received.

The evening begins with a **Coffee Hour** at 8:30 P.M. At 9 P.M., a lecture on "High Holiday Music to Inspire and Infuse the Soul" will be presented by **Dr. Mark Kligman**, professor of ethnomusicology at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. This will lead into a **Congregational Prelude** of traditional Selihot melodies at 9:45 P.M., led by our cantors, with choir members sitting with congregants to reinforce the singing of the prayer tunes.

At 10 P.M., the **Selihot Service** will begin. Rabbis David H. Lincoln, Kenneth A. Stern and Miriam C. Berkowitz will lead the prayer readings, and Cantors David Lefkowitz and Nancy Abramson will chant the liturgy, accompanied by the Synagogue High Holy Day Choir, under the direction of Neil Robinson.

Selihot is the ancient traditional manner of preparing for a deeply meaningful High Holy Day worship experience, and it can be especially significant in our generation. Individuals and families of all ages are encouraged to attend and participate.

This is the beginning of the penitential period. Selihot is recited each morning until Yom Kippur at 7:05 A.M., prior to our regular Shacharit Chapel service.

Hebrew School for Parents With Master Teacher Vivian Finkel

10 Thursday Mornings:
September 14 through November 16
Beginners: 9:30 – 10:30 A.M.
Intermediate: 10:45 – 11:45 A.M.

Learn about holidays, prayers, Torah and Hebrew. Course parallels Hebrew School studies. Cost: \$150, subsidized and sponsored by the Parents' Association. To register, either call Varda Hubara's office or come to the first class. Room 305. Try it. You'll love it!

You are cordially invited to have DINNER IN THE RITTER SUKKAH Friday, October 13 through Thursday, October 19

All reservations are pre-paid and non-refundable. In case of rain, dinner will be served on the Lower Level. Cost \$25 per person; \$10 each for children under 8 years of age. Please fill out, cut out, and return the reservation form below, marking the dinner(s) you will be attending, with your check made payable to Park Avenue Synagogue.

RESERVATION FORM

Please check appropriate Sukkah Dinner(s):

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---|
| 1) Friday, October 13 at 7 P.M.
Congregational Sukkot Shabbat Dinner | #Adults _____
Total \$ _____ | #Children Under 8 _____
Over 8 _____ |
| 2) Saturday, October 14 at 6:30 P.M.
hosted by Sisterhood | #Adults _____
Total \$ _____ | #Children Under 8 _____
Over 8 _____ |
| 3) Sunday, October 15 at 6:30 P.M.
hosted by the Family Education Program | #Adults _____
Total \$ _____ | #Children Under 8 _____
Over 8 _____ |
| 4) Monday, October 16 at 6:30 P.M.
hosted by the Women's Evening Group | #Adults _____
Total \$ _____ | #Children Under 8 _____
Over 8 _____ |
| 5) Tuesday, October 17 at 6:30 P.M.
hosted by the Men's Club | #Adults _____
Total \$ _____ | #Children Under 8 _____
Over 8 _____ |
| 6) Wednesday, October 18 at 6:30 P.M.
hosted by the Parents' Association | #Adults _____
Total \$ _____ | #Children Under 8 _____
Over 8 _____ |
| 7) Thursday, October 19 at 6:30 P.M.
hosted by the Parents' Association | #Adults _____
Total \$ _____ | #Children Under 8 _____
Over 8 _____ |
| Total Amount of Check Enclosed _____ | | Grand Total \$ _____ |

Name _____
(please print clearly)

Address _____

Telephone No. _____
(day) (evening)

Help Decorate the Ritter Sukkah

Also, come help decorate the Ritter Sukkah! The more the better! It takes many hands to do the job and everyone is invited to join in the fun. We will be decorating on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, October 10, 11 and 12 from 10 A.M. to 3 or 4 P.M. Please let us know when you will be able to help. You will be performing a mitzvah! Please fill out the volunteer form below, cut it out and return it to Park Avenue Synagogue!

VOLUNTEER FORM

I want to help decorate the Ritter Sukkah! I can come on:

- ☐ Tuesday, October 10 Time _____ ☐ Wednesday, October 11 Time _____
☐ Thursday, October 12 Time _____

Name _____
(please print clearly)

Telephone No. _____
(day) (evening)

Congratulations

Park Avenue Synagogue extends a hearty Mazal Tov to:

Marilyn and Greg Adler, upon the birth of their daughter, Melissa Eve.

Robert and Deanna Adler, upon the birth of their granddaughter, Melissa Eve.

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kirshenbaum, upon the birth of their twins, Lucas Jason and Talia Marilyn.

Wendy and Adam Modlin, upon the birth of their daughter, Dylan Sylvia.

Barrie and Leah Modlin, upon the birth of their granddaughter, Dylan Sylvia.

Mrs. Elaine Polson, upon the marriage of her son, Steven, to Lori Weisbart.

New Schedule of Hours For The Edmond De Rothschild Library

The Rothschild Library's schedule of hours has been extended as follows:

Mondays	3:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.
Tuesdays	10:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.*
Wednesdays	3:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.
Thursdays	3:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.**
Sundays	9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

* The Tuesday afternoon extension is to accommodate the Retirees Group, Sisterhood, and the Early Childhood Center's children and parents.

** The Thursday evening extension is to accommodate people who work and would use the library and its services but cannot do so during normal office hours.

The Park Avenue Synagogue Bereavement Group

Park Avenue Synagogue has formed a Bereavement Group for people who have lost a loved one or a close friend. It is facilitated by **Dr. Sheila Erlich**, a licensed psychologist.

The group will meet at **7:30 P.M.** on the following four **Wednesday** evenings:

- September 13 - November 29
- October 11 - December 13

For additional information about his group, please call Rabbi Kenneth Stern at 369-2600.

Fall 2000 JTS Havruta Program

• **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT & MARTYRDOM: Selections from Sanhedrin** with Rabbi Joel Roth

Tuesdays: Sept. 12 - Nov. 14

• **THE SH'MA AND ITS BLESSINGS:**

Finding Personal Meaning with Rabbi Neil Gilman

Thursdays: Sept. 14 - Nov. 16

• **MUSSAR AFTER THE HOLOCAUST:**

The Ethics of Reconstruction with Rabbi Shaul Magid

Tuesdays: Sept. 12 - Nov. 14

Time and Place: 7-9 P.M.

Jewish Theological Seminary
3080 Broadway (122nd and Broadway)

Cost: \$175 for one course/\$300 for two. \$150 for each course for seniors and full-time students. Texts must be purchased separately.

For further information or to register, call (212) 678-8979 or e-mail havruta-mail@jtsa.edu

Cemetery Visitation Monday, September 25

It is a commendable custom to visit the graves of relatives at the approach of the holidays. However, we are aware of the fact that some of our members, whose loved ones are interred in Sharon Gardens, the congregation's cemetery in Valhalla, N.Y., are without a means of transportation. Once again, the synagogue will rent a bus to transport its members to the cemetery on **MONDAY** morning, **SEPTEMBER 25** (if there is sufficient interest). Rabbi Stern will accompany the group and offer the appropriate graveside prayers for those who desire them.

To reserve your place, please send your check for \$20, payable to Park Avenue Synagogue, to the attention of Bunny Abraham by **SEPTEMBER 18**. (If we must cancel our plans, your check will be returned.)

Contributions

Bikur Cholim

Amy A.B. Bressman, in honor of Rabbi Miriam C. Berkowitz.
Mrs. Susan Heller, in memory of her beloved mother, Bella Windt.

Mrs. Gertrude L. Sheft

Mrs. Gertrude Sheft, in honor of Fannie Beller's 90th birthday.

Mrs. Gertrude Sheft, in honor of Vicki Wimpfheimer, upon the birth of her twin great-grandchildren, Adam and Hannah Levine.

Mrs. Gertrude Sheft, in memory of Helen Hahn's daughter, Carol Hahn Glasser.

Mrs. Gertrude Sheft, in honor of Helen Hahn, upon the marriage of her granddaughter, Barbara Glasser, to Steven Blinn.

Florence Solomon, in memory of the beloved husband of Ruth Fuhrman.

Joan Cohen Scholarship Fund

Amy A.B. Bressman, in honor of Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern.
Mr. Marvin J. Cohen

Sarah I. Gelman Memorial Fund

Florence Solomon, to celebrate Evelyn Gelman "WEG Woman of The Year".

(continued on page 10)

Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and to their families. To:

Mr. Allan Blumstein, upon the death of his mother, Sarah Englander Blumstein.

Mrs. Bessie Botwinick, upon the death of her husband, Benjamin Botwinick.

Mrs. Katherine Chavkin, upon the death of her father, Alex Showe.

Mrs. Deborah Chenensky, upon the death of her father, Thomas Mallow.

Mrs. Bernice Friedman, upon the death of her mother, Zena Forman.

Mr. Alan Fuirst, upon the death of his father, William Fuirst.

Mr. Jeff Mordos, upon the death of his mother, Mathilda Mordos.

Mr. Michael Oberman, upon the death of his father, Hyman Oberman.

Mrs. Dawn Ostroff, upon the death of her father, Lawrence Tarnofsky.

Mr. Frederic Ruvkun, upon the death of his mother, Dora Ruvkun.

Mr. Frederick Schwartzman, upon the death of his mother, Fay Schwartzman.

The family of the late Estelle Stein.


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CALENDAR OF EVENTS for September 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
THE EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD LIBRARY The library will reopen on Tuesday, September 5. New Schedule of Hours: Mondays 3:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. Tuesdays 10:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. Wednesdays 3:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. Thursdays 3:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Sundays 9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.			REMEMBER THE DAILY MINYANIM Monday - Friday at 7:15 A.M. Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9 A.M. Sunday - Thursday at 5:45 P.M.		1 6:15 P.M. Friday Night Service Light Candles 7:08 P.M.	2 9:15 A.M. Shabbat Service 6 P.M. Afternoon & Evening Service & Study
3	4 LABOR DAY	5 8 A.M. Talmud on Tuesday Morning With Rabbi David Lincoln 1 P.M. Retirees Group	6	7	8 6:15 P.M. Friday Night Service Light Candles 6:56 P.M.	9 7:30 A.M. Hashkama Service 9:15 A.M. Shabbat Service 9:30 A.M. Havurah Service Bat Mitzvah of Katya Tawil Ostrow 11:15 A.M. Tot Shabbat 6 P.M. Afternoon & Evening Service & Study
10	11 4:30 P.M. Parents' Association Welcome Coffee 7:15 P.M. Introduction to Judaism With Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz 7:30 P.M. WEG Board Meeting	12 8 A.M. Talmud on Tuesday Morning With Rabbi David Lincoln 1 P.M. Retirees Group 4:30 P.M. Parents' Association Welcome Coffee 7:30 P.M. Men's Club Board Meeting	13 6:15 P.M. Mitzvah Sunday Planning Meeting 7:30 P.M. Park Avenue Synagogue Bereavement Group	14 Hebrew School for Parents 9:30 A.M. Beginners 10:45 A.M. Intermediate 4:30 P.M. Parents' Association Welcome Coffee 6:15 P.M. Family Education Committee Meeting 7:30 P.M. Young Couples Group	15 6:15 P.M. Friday Night Service Light Candles 6:44 P.M.	16 7:30 A.M. Hashkama Service 9:15 A.M. Shabbat Service Bar Mitzvah of Michael Henry Simon 10 A.M. Shabbat Initiative 11:15 A.M. Tot Shabbat 6 P.M. Afternoon & Evening Service & Study
17 9:30 A.M. - 2 P.M. Hebrew Crash Course	18 7 P.M. High Holiday Singing Workshop Parents' Association Curriculum Night & Reception 7:15 P.M. Introduction to Judaism With Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz 7-9 P.M. Hebrew Crash Course	19 8 A.M. Talmud on Tuesday Morning With Rabbi David Lincoln 1 P.M. Retirees Group 6 P.M. Family Education Library Story Hour 7-9 P.M. Hebrew Crash Course	20 5 P.M. Parents' Association Planning Meeting	21 Hebrew School for Parents 9:30 A.M. Beginners 10:45 A.M. Intermediate 5 P.M. Parents' Association Planning Meeting	22 6:15 P.M. Friday Night Service Monthly Children's Birthday Celebration Light Candles 6:33 P.M.	23 7:30 A.M. Hashkama Service 9:15 A.M. Shabbat Service 9:30 A.M. Havurah Service Bat Mitzvah of Ariel Morgan Brettholz 6 P.M. Afternoon & Evening Service & Study 9 P.M./10 P.M. Selihot Lecture & Service
24 Family Education Visit to Sofer	25 7:15 P.M. Introduction to Judaism With Rabbi Miriam Berkowitz	26 8 A.M. Talmud on Tuesday Morning With Rabbi David Lincoln 1 P.M. Retirees Group	27	28 Hebrew School for Parents 9:30 A.M. Beginners 10:45 A.M. Intermediate	29 Erev Rosh Hashanah 5:45 P.M. Service Light Candles 6:21 P.M.	30 First Day of Rosh Hashanah 8:30 A.M. Service 5:45 P.M. Service Light Candles 7:21 P.M.

Contributions (continued from page 8)

Clara Hammel Memorial Library Fund

Dr. & Mrs. Leslie M. Hammel, in memory of Mr. Bernard Levine, husband of Geri Levine.
Dr. Leslie Hammel, in memory of his beloved mother-in-law and father-in-law, Dr. & Mrs. Nicholas Rittersporn.

Hesed Fund

Mrs. Carol J. Antler, in honor of her birthday.

High School Food Pantry

Mrs. Frances Berger, in memory of her beloved father-in-law, Benjamin Berger.
Daniel & Vivian Bernstein, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Maya Sekons.
Mrs. Miriam Brown, in memory of her beloved brother, Elihu Winer.
Mrs. Antoinette Geisler, in memory of her beloved father, Albert Natelson.
Phyllis & Arthur B. Colvin, in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.
Mrs. Joanne Davis, in honor of her beloved father, Samuel Victorsohn.
Mrs. Joanne Davis, in memory of her beloved husband, Samuel Victorsohn.
Mrs. Joanne Davis, in honor of the High School Food Pantry workers.
Mrs. Barbara Delgado, in honor of her birthday.
Juliet & Leon Demb, in honor of Barrie & Leah Modlin, upon the birth of their granddaughter Dylan Sylvia Modlin.
Mrs. Ann Eisenberg, in honor of her birthday.
Ruthie & Jimmy Ezra, in memory of Mrs. Tzila Geulah Agasi.
Ruthie & Jimmy Ezra, in honor of Edna Shohet.
Vivian & Milton Finkel, in honor of Justin Karr's graduations.
Vivian & Milton Finkel, in honor of Lisa Harris' graduations.
Vivian & Milton Finkel, in honor of Evelyn Gelman being honored as "WEG Woman of The Year".
Anita & Stanley Gluck, in honor of Justin Karr's graduation

from Hebrew High School.
Mrs. Mimi Goldfinger, in memory of her beloved brother, Harold J. Livingston.
Mrs. Mimi Goldfinger, in honor of her birthday.
Dr. & Mrs. Leslie M. Hammel, with congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Barrie Modlin, upon the birth of their granddaughter.
Laurie, Maury, Charles & Lisa Harris, in memory of Murray Erlich, father of Shelley Holm.
Laurie, Maury, Charles & Lisa Harris, in memory of Lee Simon, father of Brad Simon.
Laurie & Maury Harris, in memory of Roz Freedman, mother of Barbara Sassoon.
Laurie, Maury & Charles Harris, in memory of Alfred Isselbacher, husband of Carmen Isselbacher.
Laurie & Maury Harris, in memory of Abraham Halbfinger, father of Martin Halbfinger.
Laurie & Maury Harris, in memory of Ruth Pomaranc, mother of Anne Corwin.
Mrs. Susan Heller, in memory of her beloved father, Louis Windt.
Susan & Leon Heller, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Maya Sekons.
Mrs. Ruth Kantor, in honor of her birthday.
Gail & Dennis Karr, in loving memory of Ester Zackin.
Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz
Mrs. Anne Katz, in memory of her beloved brother, Louis Osdin.
Mr. & Mrs. Gershon Kekst
Mrs. Esther Klein, in honor of her very special birthday.
The Kraiem Family, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Tannenbaum.
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Lapidus, in memory of Jenny La Manna, mother of Iris Lapidus.
Karen Lapidus, in memory of Jenny La Manna, mother of Iris Lapidus.
Mrs. Susan Lerner, in memory of Dr. Albert Rothseid, father of Ruth Rothseid.

Mrs. Susan Lerner, in honor of her birthday.
Mrs. Ruth Levenson
Mr. David Levine
Mrs. Sheila Miller, in memory of her beloved father, Abraham Maurice Baker.
Mrs. Sheila Miller, in honor of her Aliyah at the Passover Service.
Sandra & Herman Rosen, in honor of Leah & Barrie Modlin, upon the birth of their granddaughter, Dylan Sylvia Modlin.
Mrs. Lite Sabin, in memory of her beloved father, Peter E. Bielenberg.
Barbara & Andre Sassoon, in honor of the birth of Eli Ezer Vaturi, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joel Vaturi.
The Scharf & Kaufman Families, in honor of Adam Tetenbaum's Bar Mitzvah.
Marion & Sherwood Schwarz
Mrs. Rose Spinner, in memory of her beloved husband, Ignacy Spinner.
Albert Sussman, in honor of Maya Sekons' Bat Mitzvah.
Third and Fourth Grade PAS Religious School
Irene Sussman, in memory of her beloved sister,

St. Kossoff College Fund

Mrs. Phyllis Kossoff, in memory of her beloved daughter, Stephanie Lynn Kossoff and in memory of her beloved husband, Burton Kossoff.
Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Milgrim, in memory of Burton Kossoff.

Krumholz Memorial Scholarship Fund

Mrs. Rosalind Sackoff, in memory of Elroy and Terry Krumholz.

Liturgical Music Fund

Amy A.B. Bressman, in honor of Cantor David Lefkowitz.
Amy A.B. Bressman, in honor of Cantor Nancy Abramson.

(Names not listed here will appear in the next issue.)


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50 East 87th Street
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SEPTEMBER 2000
